Torch Relay likely to start under cloudy skies

17 May 2012 - Forecasters from the Met Office are saying that the weather will be damp and drizzly as the Olympic Torch Relay starts its seventy day journey around the UK in Cornwall this weekend.

As we move later in to the day the weather should brighten up with some sunshine breaking through the clouds as the Torch makes its way through Cornwall into Devon.

Derrick Ryall, Head of Public Weather Service at the Met Office said: "If you are planning to head out to follow the Olympic Torch then you can check one of our local forecasts available for locations along its route. In fact the Met Office provides local forecasts for over 5,000 locations across the UK."

The first day will see the torch flying high at the Eden Project, one of the locations in the Met Office's local 5,000 forecasts. Ben Fogle will bear the Olympic Flame above the canopy of the world's biggest indoor rainforest in the Rainforest Balloon, normally used by the project's horticulture team to prune the highest reaches of the tree canopy.

Tracey Smith, Eden's Commercial Projects and Relationships Manager, said: "We're proud to be part of Cornwall's starring role on the first day of the Olympic torch relay and very excited that Ben will be flying the Flame above the treetops in our Rainforest Biome. What an excellent curtain-raiser for what promises to be a fantastic summer of Olympic sport."

Forecasts for the Olympic Torch Relay are available on our website as well as on mobile phones and on our iPhone and Android Apps meaning you are never far from a local, detailed weather forecast.

Forecasts for sporting venues at the Olympic and Paralympic Games will be available as the Games draw closer.

The Met Office are providing weather forecasts to LOCOG as well as local and national government for the Torch Relay, Olympic and Paralympic Games to support event organisers, competing athletes and visitors and spectators alike.

Contact details

Members of the media can email: pressoffice@metoffice.gov.uk or call us on +44 (0)1392 886655*.

Out-of-hours an operator will contact the on-duty press officer.

**If your call is not a media enquiry you should contact our Customer Centre on 0870 9000100.*

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